

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-10 ACDA-05 /075 W

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R 180828Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1084

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONGEN ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7825

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, US, UR

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET PRESSURE TO KEEP COMMON DEFENSE
INSTALLATIONS (CDI'S) CLOSED

1. THE OCTOBER 15 EDITION OF AYRINTILI HABER (A NEW NEWSPAPER WHICH CONCENTRATES ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS PUBLISHED BY MASS CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN) CARRIED A STORY CLAIMING THE SOVIET UNION HAD MADE AN ORAL PRESENTATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE VOTE LIFTING THE EMBARGO RECOMMENDING THAT THE US-TURKISH COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS NOT BE RE-OPENED. AYRINTILI HABER QUOTES FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES AS SAYING THE SOVIET RECOMMENDATION WAS BASED ON ARTICLE 6 OF A JOINT STATEMENT SIGNED BY TURKEY AND THE SOVIET UNION IN APRIL 1972. ARTICLE 6 REPORTEDLY PLEDGES THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL NOT RESORT TO FORCE OR THREAT OF FORCE AND THAT THE TERRITORIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE USED FOR AGGRESSIVE OR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE NEWSPAPER STORY CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT SOVIET UNION HAD NEVER BEFORE REMINDED TURKEY OF THE 1972 DECLARATION AND SPECULATES THAT IT WAS DOING SO NOW BECAUSE IN THE SOVIET
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VIEW DETENTE HAD BEGUN TO COOL.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF OCTOBER 16, MFA DIRECTOR OF EASTERN DEPARTMENT DENIED THE STORY AND SAID THAT THE MFA SPOKESMAN HAD ISSUED A STATEMENT. STATEMENT WHICH APPEARS IN ONE NEWSPAPER OCT. 17 SAYS "THERE HAS BEEN NO WRITTEN OR VERBAL, OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL, STATEMENT TO OUR MINISTRY PERSONNEL BY ANY OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY PERSONNEL ON THIS TOPIC SO FAR." AYRINTILI HABER IS STICKING BY STORY , HOWEVER. MOREOVER, A SOVIET EMBASSY THIRD SECRETARY IN COVERSTATION WITH EMBOFF EVENING OCT 15 SAID SOVIET EMBASSY HAD IN FACT APPROACHED FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SUBJECT OF REOPENING OF INSTALLATIONS.

3. COMMENT: IT SEEMS VERY UNLIKELY THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD INSTRUCT ITS EMBASSY HERE TO MAKE THE KIND OF APPROACH REPORTED IN AYRINTILI HABER SINCE TURKS WOULD GENERALLY INTERPRET IT AS INTER-FERENCE IN AN INTERNAL MATTER AND THE APPROACH WOULD THUS HAVE THE OPPOSITE AFFECT OF THAT DESIRED BY THE SOVIET UNION. ON THE OTHER HAND , IT SEEMS EQUALLY UNLIKELY, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF SOVIET DIPLOMAT'S CONFIRMATION OF THE INCIDENT, THAT THE STORY JUST AAPPEARED OUT OF THE

BLUE. IT IS, OF COURSE, POSSIBLE THAT THE THIRD SECRETARY WAS MISTAKEN, BUT A MORE LIKELY EXPLANATION IS THAT ONE OF HIS EMBASSY COLLEAGUES DID IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH SOME MFA OFFICIAL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA07825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750362-0346
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751041/aaaabknk.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <26 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED SOVIET PRESSURE TO KEEP COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS (CDI'S) CLOSED
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PINT, TU, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006